

132: HAPPINESS



SKYBOUND

THE WALKING DEAD

KIRKMAN ADLARD GAUDIANO RATHBURN



Adlard 8/14

IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

THE WALKING DEAD™

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Previously:

Maggie sent out a search party, led by Dante, to recover Ken, but all they find is a barn overcome with walkers. Back at Alexandria, Magna and her group demand answers from Andrea.

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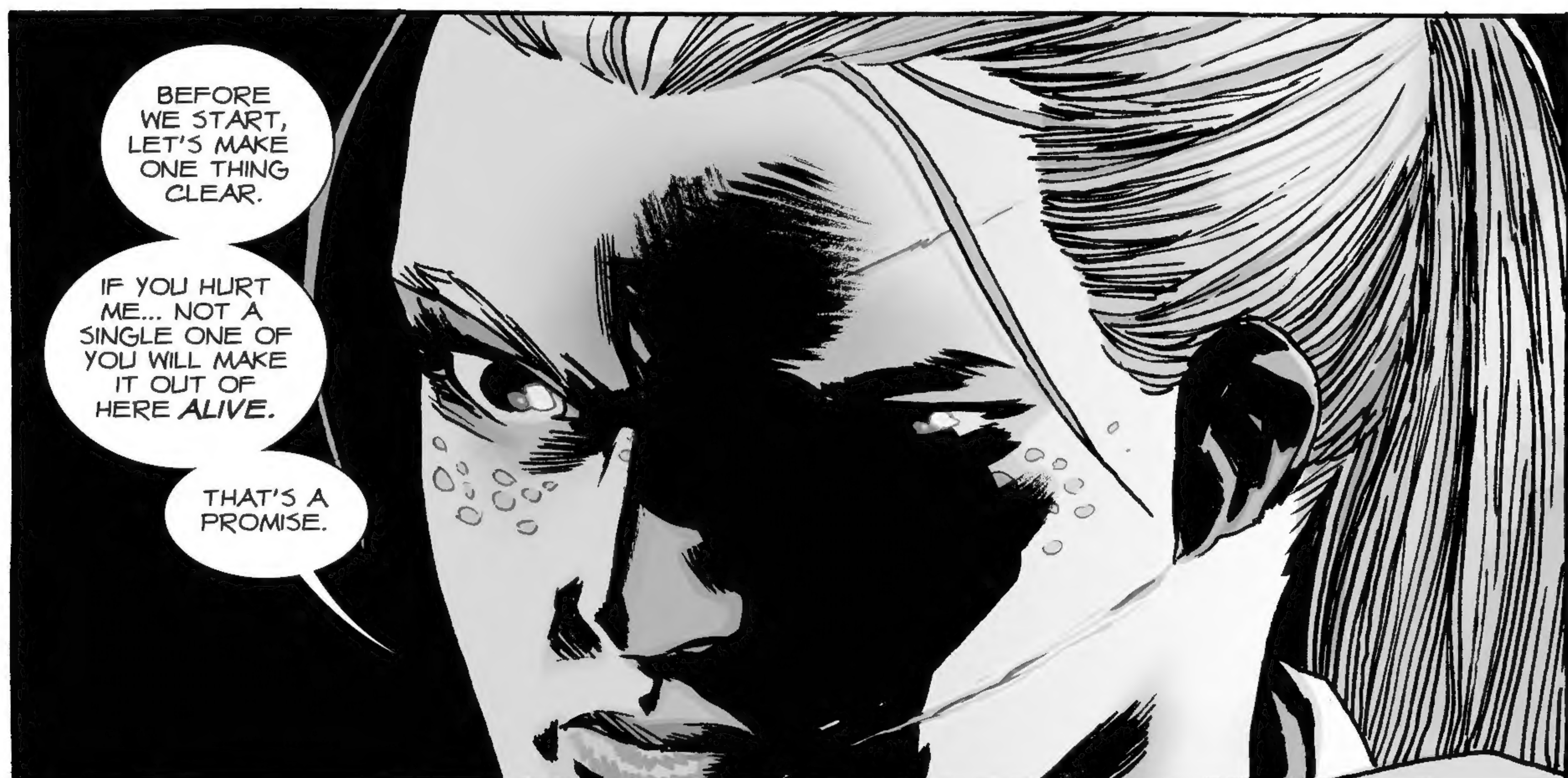
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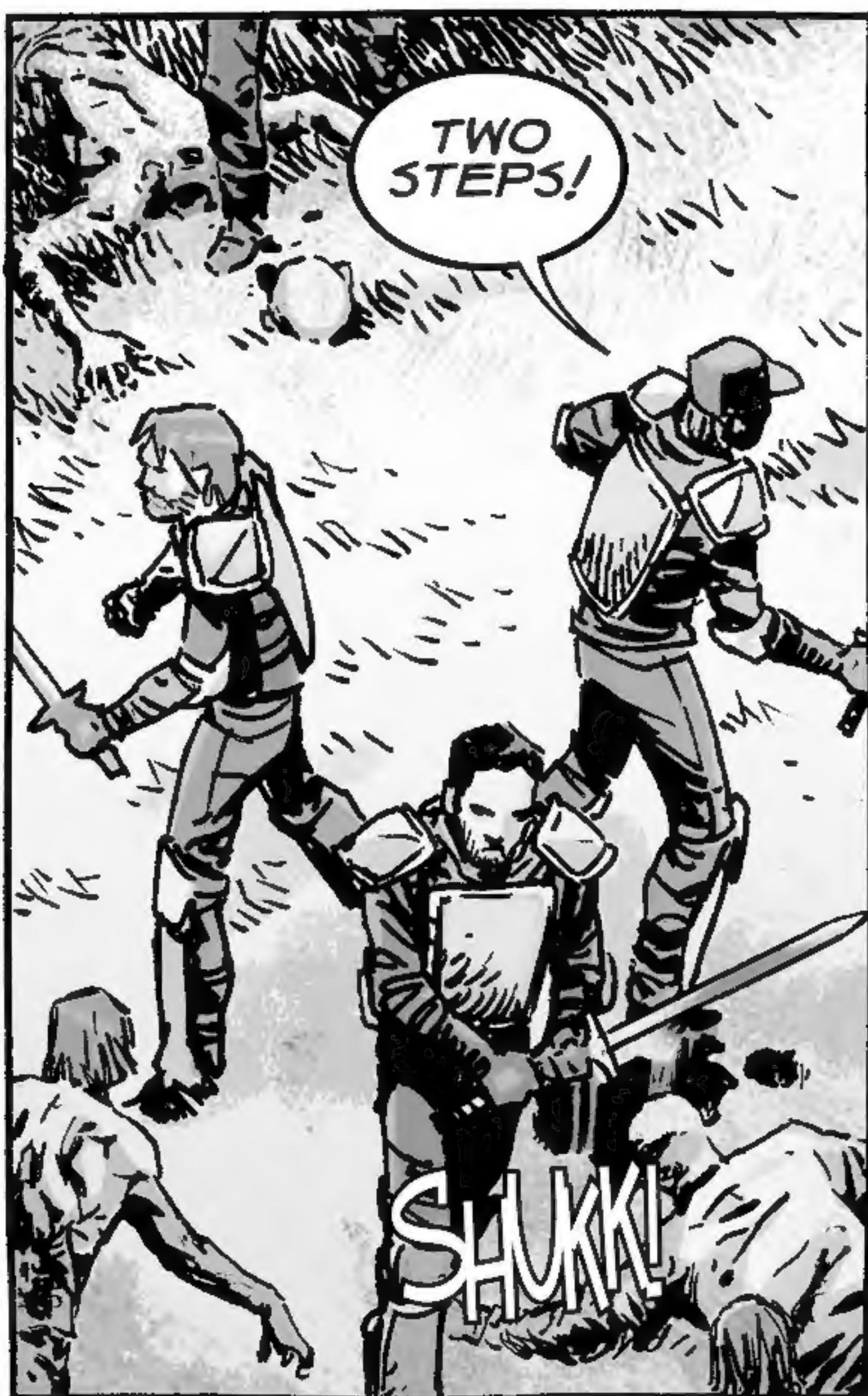


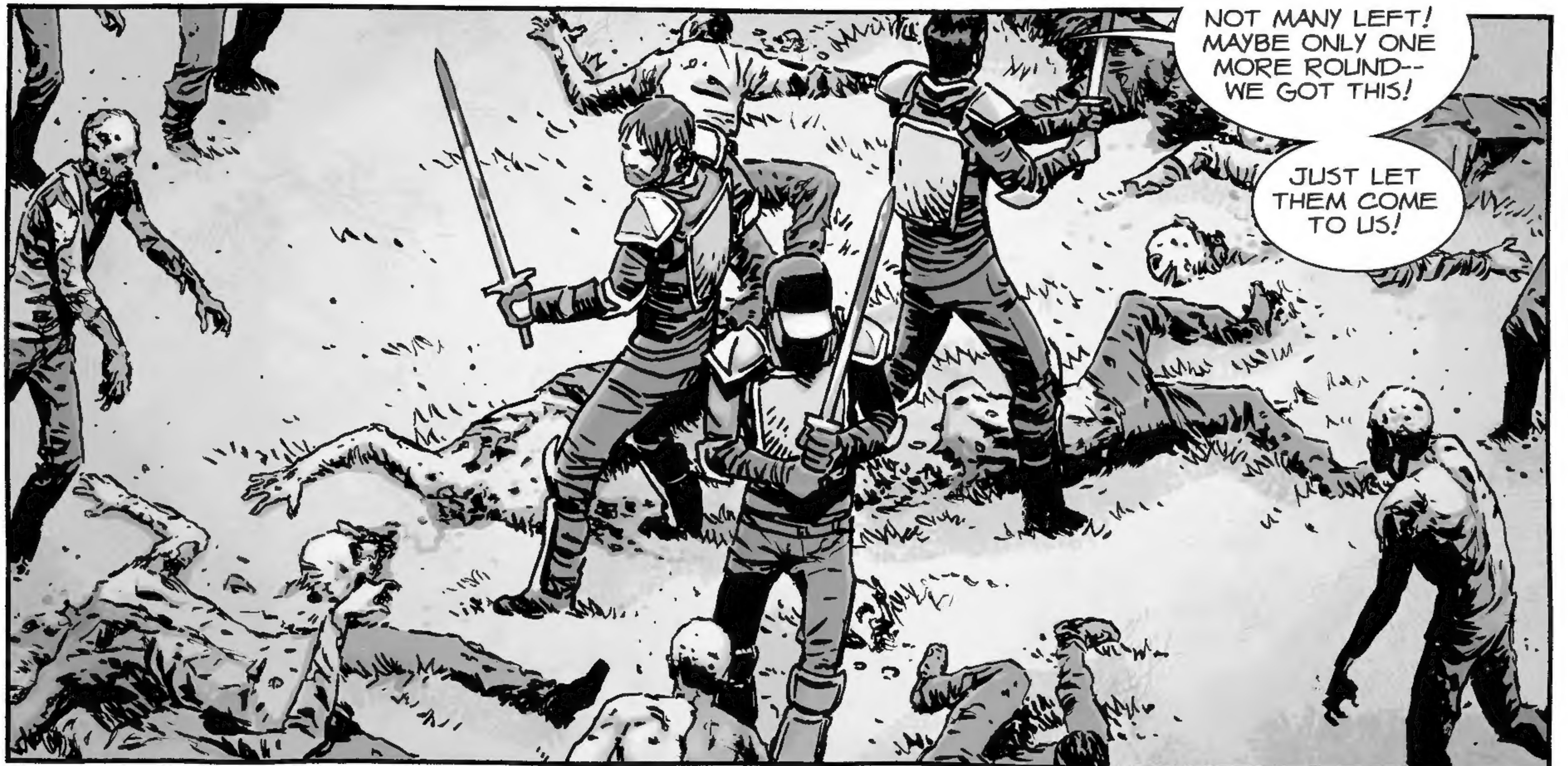
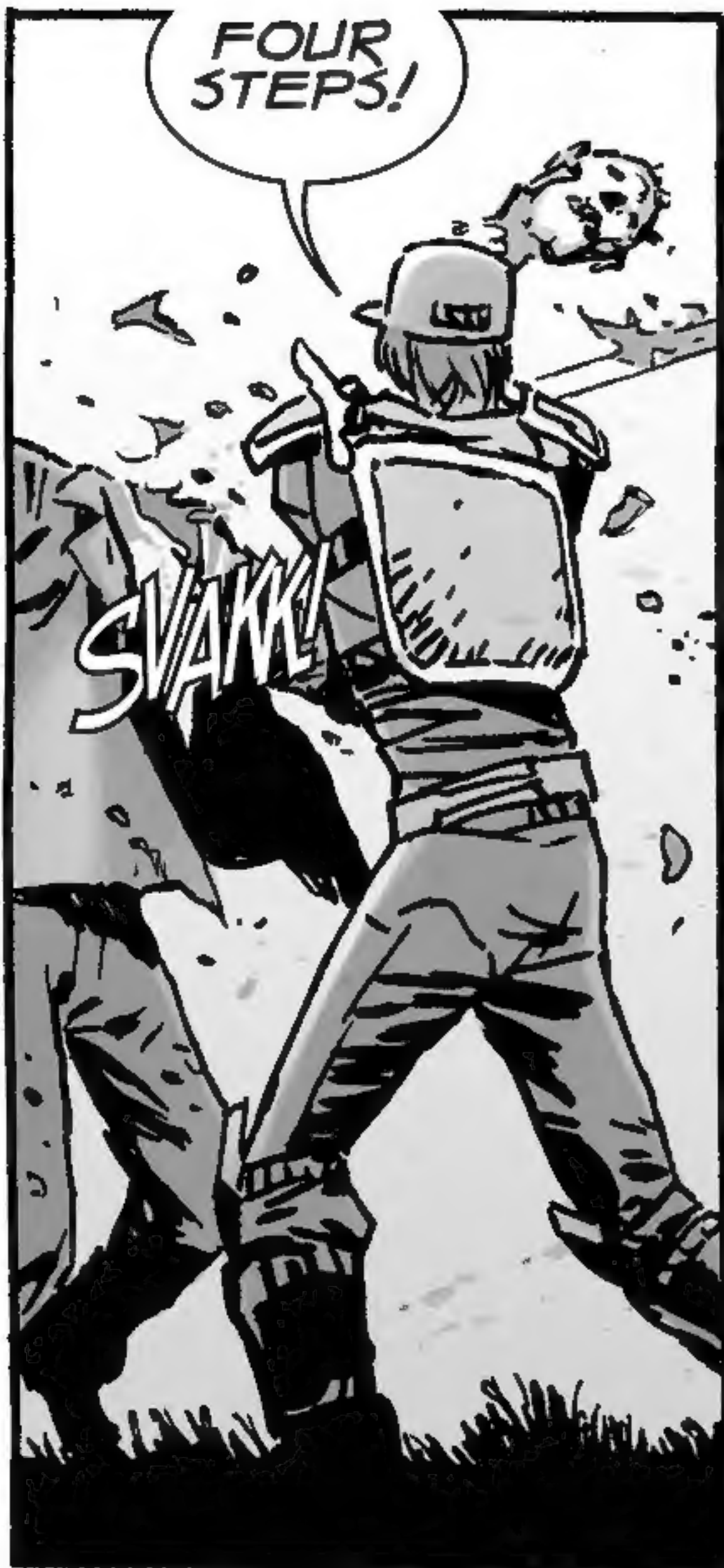




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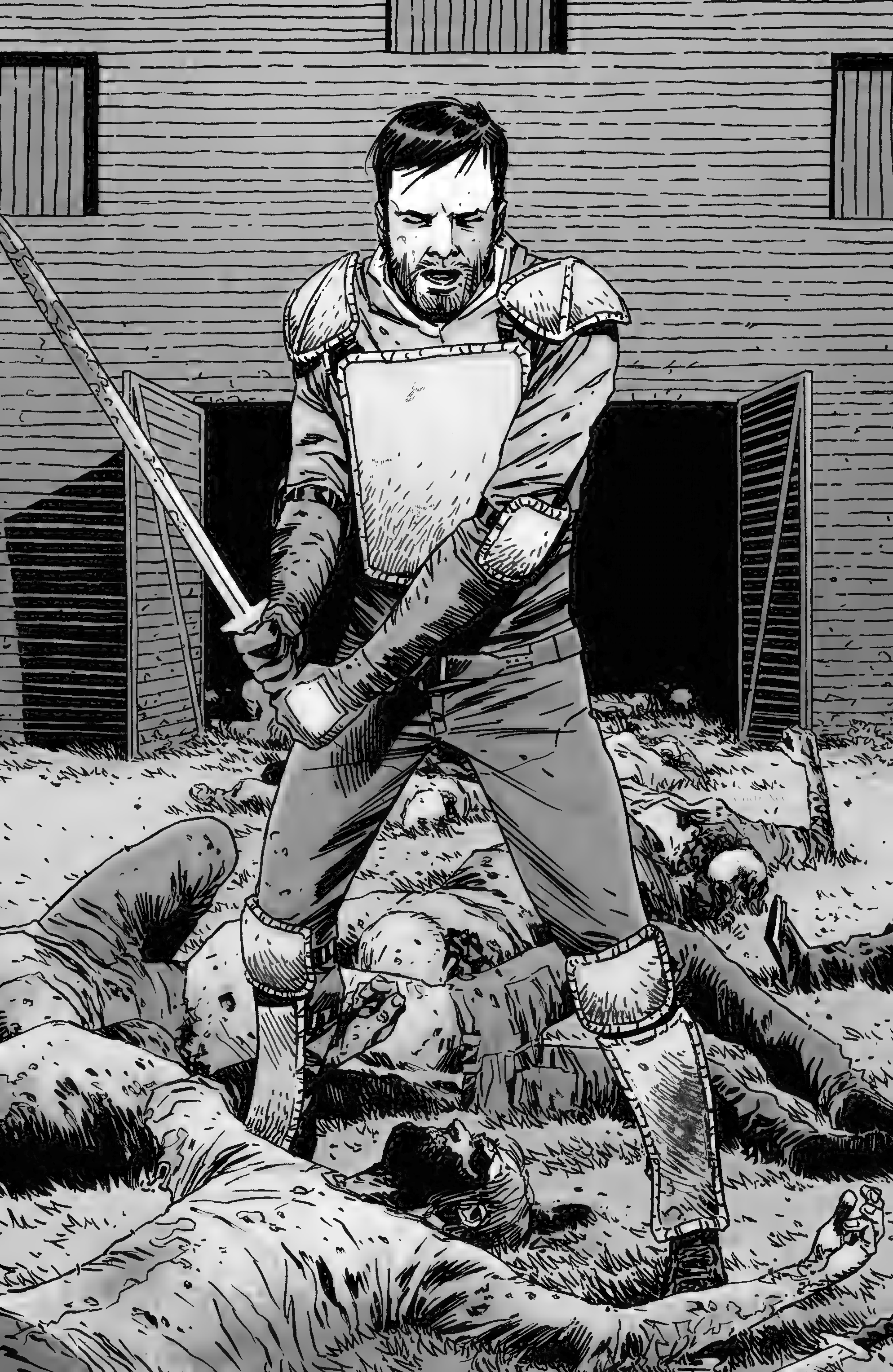




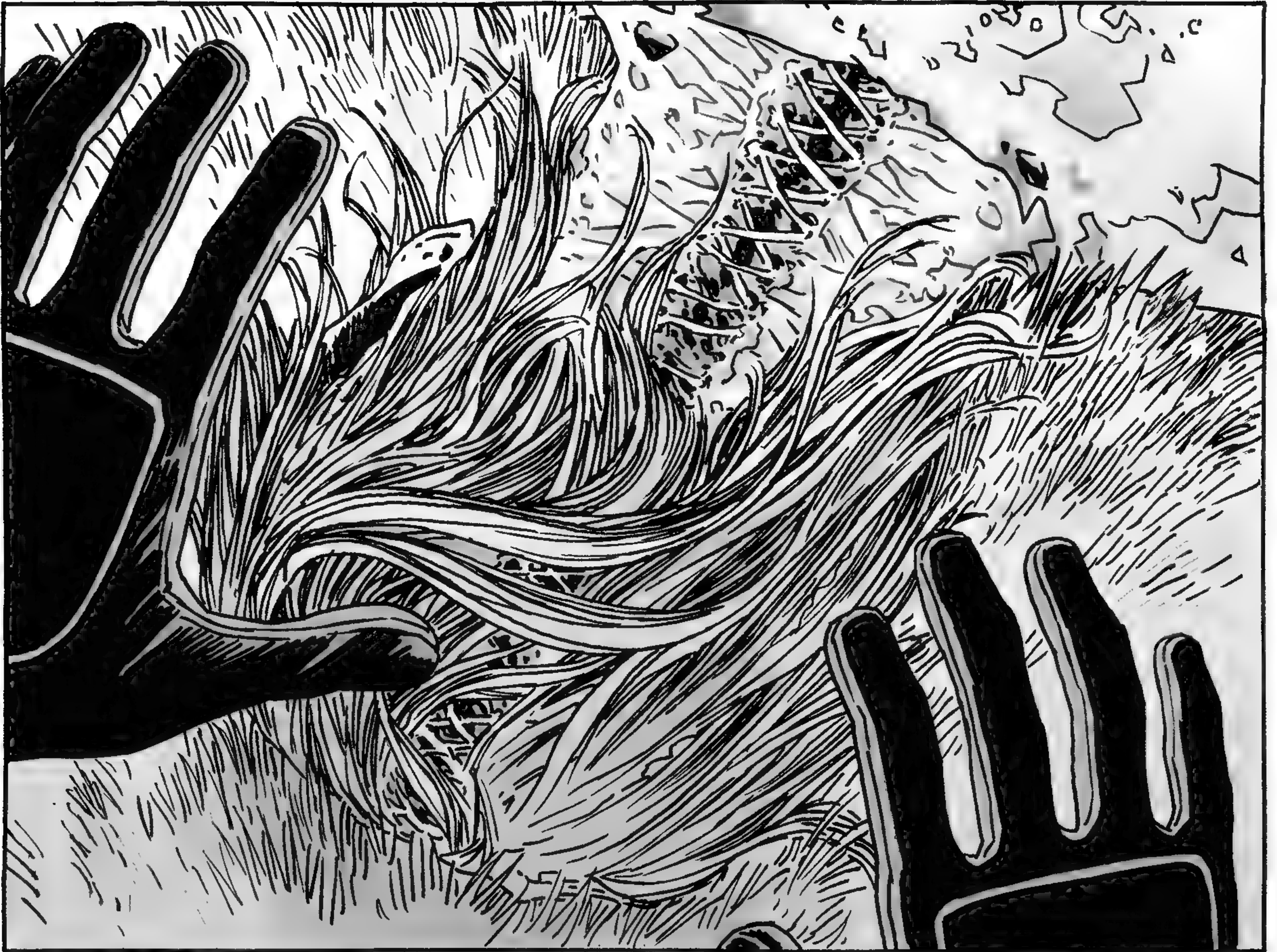


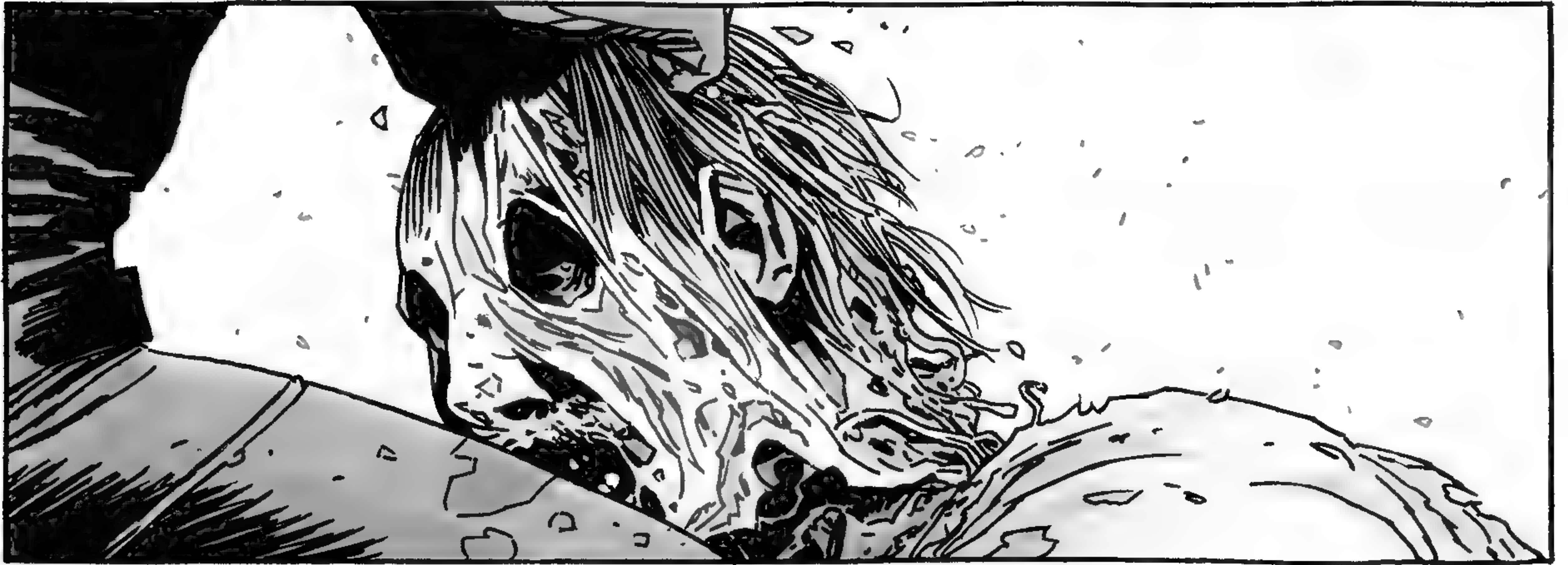


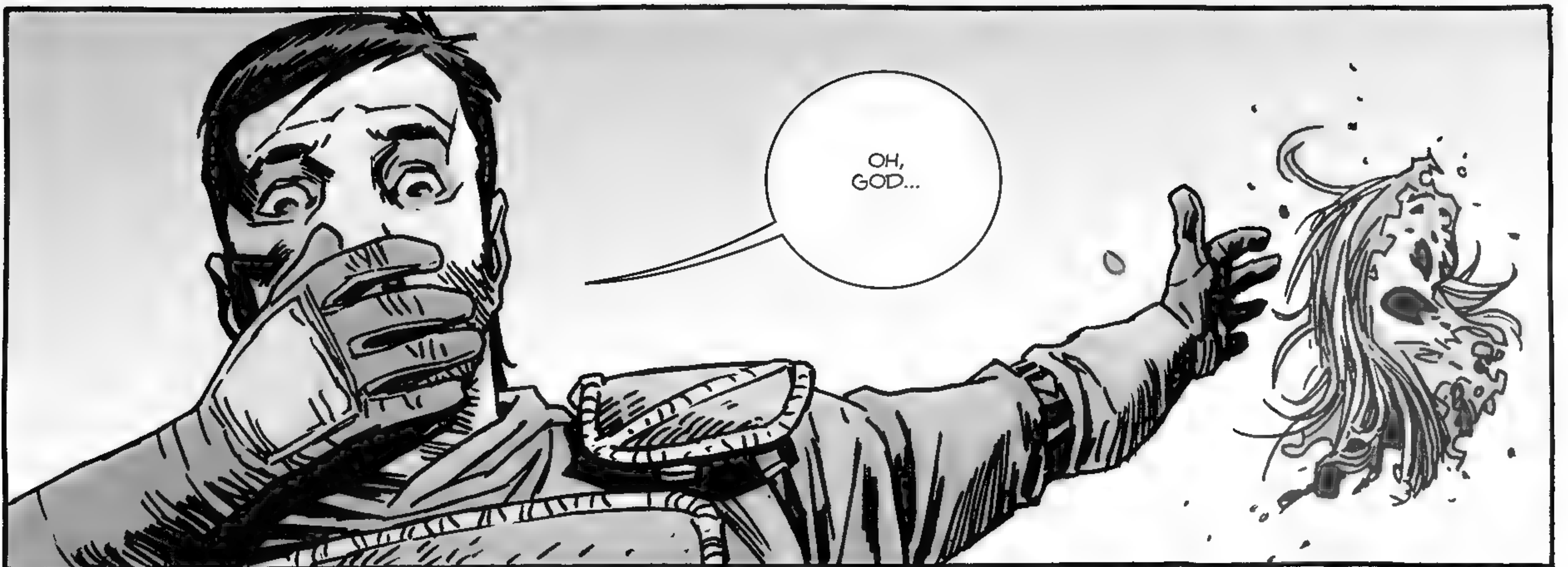


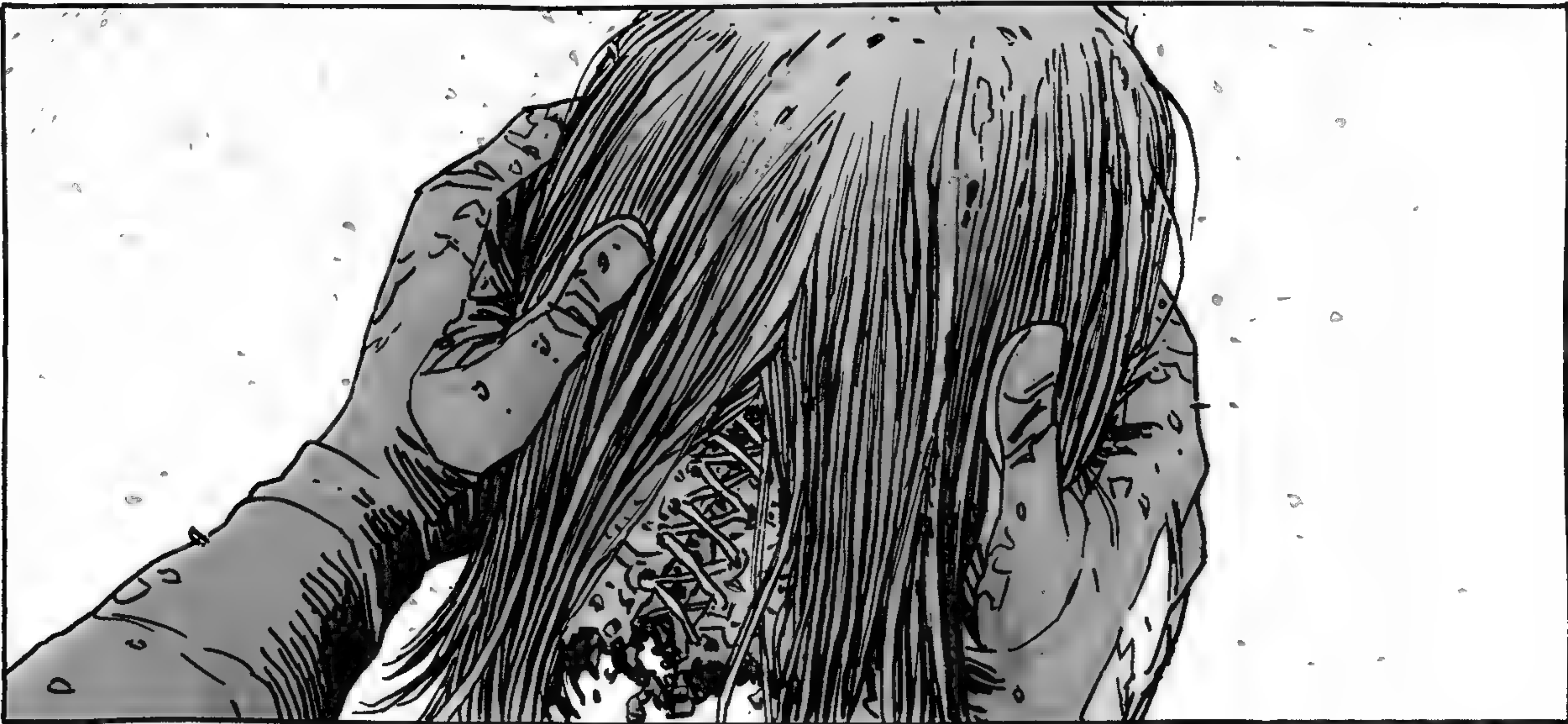














DON'T
MOVE.

LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT:

WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

Shit... what a revolting development. I was really starting to like that Dante guy, too.

Who are these people... this is crazy!

Mr. Kirkman:

Really? You finally give us a survivor group with a female leader, and she's not only L'Oreal pretty but apparently entirely controlled by her emotions and is going to be the one who brings down the communities by investing herself in the Big Bad from the last story arc and letting him free?

Nice.

Gabe C.

Stay tuned next month for JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS!

Yeah... no kidding.

Dear Kirkman & Crew,

At the time of reading "There were whispers and I was afraid"(really loving that all the issues of Walking Dead and Outcast have names), I think I've now finally warmed up to this change of pace. All Out War was exhilarating, so it was a bit of a shock to go to an admittedly slower pace, excluding the stuff with Marco and Ken. However, I'm really liking this whole new story line. Of course, something I'd really love to see are the other two communities(The Kingdom and Sanctuary), and check up on some characters we haven't seen, but I know it's coming, and I'm going to be patient.

GOOD.

Keep being patient...

First off, I'm glad that Magna was smart enough to see through Negan. Her bullshit-detector seems to be one to rival Pete's (yay TTG's Walking Dead references). I'm almost glad that that wasn't the way the next story-arc was going to play out, it was what everyone expected. These whispers though... I'm not sure anyone would have expected that. Even after the cover was released, how many people thought it was going to be actual whispers?

I'd like to see more of Ken and Marco, and not have them be completely forgotten after this is over. Even though we don't know much about them, just seeing how determined Marco was to save his friend shows he has the makings of a greatly interesting character.

The Hilltop doesn't look much changed, unlike Alexandria. Just, something I noticed. When everyone was obsessing over Rick being at the Hilltop, I just kept laughing. I mean, it makes sense in a way, but it's still very funny. And an explanation to Rick's horrible, awful character design. Just... No, I'm not going to get used to him looking like that.

Yes, you will. It took me 6 issues, but I'm there. While I wouldn't go as far as calling it "horrible, awful"... it's just not what I was expecting... and Rick was looking for some anonymity, too. Also, very few dads have style.

You will all love RICK'S LOOK! DAMN IT!

We got references to Sophia and Gregory, but didn't see them. If I had to estimate, I'm saying it's going to be another 7-8 issues until we learned everyone's fate. Well, maybe less. Can you tell me if I'm at least close?

Everyone's fate? Not close.

All in all, this issue was great, and I can't wait for what comes next. The fair, the communities, and those whispers... I'm going to take a guess and say that they're definite bad news. Hey, maybe Rick and Negan can unite to fight a common enemy or something? That'd be really cool.

Keep up the great work

Lucas
Albertson
Buffalo, NY

Maybe that would be cool... or just really, really weird.

Hey guys,

I just have to thank you for the entire TWD franchise. It all started for me with the show. All my friends and I would get together for S.N.T. (Sunday Night Tradition) and eagerly await!! Once season 4 ended I felt a loss in my life so I purchased the first two compendiums, all the volumes that fell after, and the individual comics. I'm all caught up and I was just rereading Issue 129 before I pick up 130 (which is out today!!!). I really enjoy how well written and illustrated the comic is. I have never read comics before and am in love. The creative ways that you come up with to survive or war tactics always awe me (weapons in walker filth!!). The games are good as fuck too-omg. I got my boyfriend sucked into all the comics and show too!! I love all of it! You guys are fucking awesome. And I hope Negan gets out today..... He he he... Also, why did Andrea have to suck so much in the show? :(

Samantha Savory

I love hearing stories like this, of readers coming from the TV show (or wherever, Telltale, etc.) and then word of mouth and sharing the books gets the ball rolling. You're like human dung beetles, rolling the giant ball of shit uphill until it's even bigger. But like, it's not a bad thing, because dung beetles LOVE shit.

Telltale should use "The games are good as fuck" as a promotional pull quote. You reading this, Telltale?

Dear Captain Kirkman

Just read issue #130 and all I have to say is THANK YOU!

Whether we've actually entered the DAY OF THE DEAD stage of your book remains to be scene but I for one would love to see some walkin talkin Eds.

I watched DAY OF THE DEAD recently and man, that's like reading Stan Lee comics from the '60s. The game's just evolved so much since then. Some amazing gore though...

Mackiewicz... them's fighting words!

Maybe it turns out to be some regular dudes using dead goop as a cover and the dead are not the ones whispering which would be fine but I'm totaling willing to buy the concept of "talkers."

I'll have to go through the all of previous LETTER HACKS to prove it but I think during ALL OUT WAR one of you teased we would see some wild shit in this issue specifically.

This only proves that you guys don't listen to us.

I think when I was writing ALL OUT WAR I didn't know what was going to happen in "this issue specifically." I knew where we'd be, roughly... but not exactly how it broke into issues yet. So that's impossible.

Maybe I'm wrong but I can't wait to read everyone else's reaction to this - especially the negative ones - especially if it turns out to be a fake out.

Ahron Reinhard
Silver Spring, MD

It wasn't entirely a fake out... right?

I must admit... I thought the response to the possibility of talking zombies would be much more negative. "I" certainly wouldn't have thought that was a good idea for this book.

I know you guys probably got like, a trillion of these to wade through, but here goes. I HAVE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH THIS

FRANCHISE. I love what you guys do. The twists and storytelling are phenomenal, and I have one question. In issue #130 Robert said you were doing an issue a week in 2015. I have a feeling it was sarcasm, but could you please make it happen? I swear I'd give my left nut for that.

Keep it up,
Will Kirk

I'm only printing this because this topic is gaining steam and I am SHUTTING IT DOWN. 52 issues is an IMPOSSIBILITY. Give up all hope.

Yeah, that was officially... definitively sarcasm. 52 issues in one year is impossible. OR IS IT? STAY TUNED! (Don't... I'm totally kidding.) [Or am I?] {How many times have I done this bracket joke at this point?} <Not enough.>

Dear TWD,

I don't know how many letters you guys typically get with each issue, but I imagine you must have received a shitstorm of letters after issue 130. Talking walkers? I can't believe it, and I'm trying to think of all the reasons why they were heard whispering.

Plausible reasons:
1. There are people walking among them, similar to what Michonne used to do.

Ding! Ding! Ding!

Implausible reasons:
1. Everything else.

Exactly.

I mean, did they learn how to talk? Have the aliens you guys used to hint at finally arrived? Have the whispering voices from LOST made their way to the USA? Have you guys completely lost your minds?

Can't wait to see what happens next, and I'm holding you to weekly issues in 2015. If you guys are crazy enough to give us talking walkers, you're surely crazy enough to give us weekly issues, right?

Shut up.

Eric in Venezuela

Sean, be nice or we WILL do weekly issues next year!

I think Charlie's on MY side here.

Dearest Rob & Sean & Charlie & Stefano & Cliff & Rus & Dave (whew!),

First, thank you all for doing such an awesome job day in and day out. Now, time to bitch.. (j/k)

1.Why did you guys decide to make the cover wording so damn small? Is this "THE WALKING DEAD" or "the walking dead"(excuse me)? I almost passed it up today at the shop!(Collectors Authority shoutout). The new style just looks so wimpy and I'm not a fan of the cover spoiling what happens inside. You could've at least let us think the whispers were from Ken and Marco for a few pages and then give us the reveal at the end!

Story titles are not spoilers. Do people complain about TV episode titles, too? Or song titles? In an ideal world they function as a tease, a primer for what you're about to get your eyeballs in.

Yeah, that title could mean anything... how is that a spoiler?

2.You are such a tease! You make us think that the new group is going to break Negan out, but then they leave within the first 3 pages! C'mon, free Negan! Shit needs to be stirred up!

You're abusing the numbering system. This isn't a question.

3. Is it me or has not one baby been born in the entirety of the series besides Judith and Hershel? I mean did the group stock up on Trojans, practice abstinence (haha not likely) , or is there a secret hospital somewhere? Someone like Gene would realize that you can only go without a new generation for so long..

Maybe they just wisened up to the practicality and fun of the withdrawal method.

Plenty of babies born at the Hilltop, possibly at The Kingdom as well. Our group were pretty preoccupied most of the time.

4. If the Dead can now speak, wouldn't this be, as the Chinese say, jumping the shark? I really hope this is just misdirection from Marco and it was really someone like Possible Spoiler Alert: Michonne and Ezekiel, who now command an army of dead?

The Chinese absolutely don't say that. That's ridiculous. But not as ridiculous as suggesting that Michonne & Ezekiel command an army of the dead. RIDICULOUS.

5. I asked last time if Rosa was pregnant, and I didn't get printed (wah!). So can I assume if I ask "is Rick the father of this child?", I will receive a similar response? Or am I on to something here?

No clue, bro. I think you're trying to out Shaw Shaw, but more ridiculousness.

6. You said in one issue that Rick would die eventually, but I'm calling your bluff because he's your Bruce Wayne. When we think The Walking Dead, we think of Rick first. Unlike Bats, he can't come back after he dies. So who can lead/carry this book after he passes? I know you'll say Carl, but really?

Michonne. And her army of the fucking dead, apparently.

Rick Grimes is not Bruce Wayne.

Well, that's it, I know I'm complaining a lot but it's because I love the series. I haven't cared about a book this much since Preacher! I hope that it wraps up before we all die because every great work needs an end, that's what makes them great. I don't want you to close up shop tomorrow, but I'd like to finish the series in 20-30 years as a grandfather. I started reading in 2007 before I had any kids at all, now I have two sons Ethan and Zachary. I think it would be pretty cool to introduce my future grandsons to your work.

Oh, you like PREACHER?! All's forgiven! But please wait some time before you let your sons read that.

Thank you for all the creativity, words, art, color, and especially editing,

Paul Rocco

I know I talk a lot about this series going on forever... but I don't think 30 more years is feasible. Or hell, maybe it is. It really doesn't feel like it's been 12 years already (is that because it's still only been 11?)

Dear Cpt. Kirk and Crew,

Once again, congrats at making a spectacular comic book series with engaging characters, such a deep story, and wonderful art. I look forward to indulging myself in the story every month. So, I have a few questions-

1) Back in issue 125, Rick calls Negan "the absolute stupidest person still alive." Now I'm guessing that stupidest was in there for one of three reasons- 1) just a typo, 2) to show how civilization has either forgotten proper grammar or no longer cares, 3) because you (Robert) watches Trailer Park Boys and wanted to do a "Rickyism" with Rick. I hope it's the last option :).

"Stupidest" is what you're going to bust our balls about?! Is there no accounting for the poetry in modern English? Most dialogue—and anything reflecting dialect—ignores a ton of wonky grammar.

Yeah, people don't always speak with perfect grammar... it annoys me when people don't get this. Even the smartest people in the world flub up sometimes.

2) Zombies talking now? I guess with TWD it's possible, but IDK. Marco is most likely not crazy, because Charlie made it pretty obvious (with his art) that Marco and Ken looked up at the same time because they heard something. But I guess it's possible that Ken heard something else and Marco processed it as words. But I'm more likely to believe that scouts (or hunters) from another group were employing the tried and true tactic of covering themselves in zombie guts to blend in with the Walkers, albeit the fact that it was raining, so maybe they found another way to blend in (or keep zombie guts on in the rain). Am I on to something?

Close. But not exactly.

3) Why don't the communities find a bunch of empty pop cans, fill them with gravel, and run a line through them and use that to make a perimeter around the road (like the groups put around their camps in the TV show)?

Around all the road? When no one is there to hear them most of the time? Each rider monitors a few miles. A string of cans like that would be useless.

4) Everyone is wondering where Michone is. I think she's with Ezekiel (as more than a freind) and Shiva the giraffe in the Kingdom. Possible?

As Kevin Garnett once shouted from the top of his lungs, "ANYTHING'S POSSIBBBBBBBLLLLLE!

Thanks a lot for reading my letter and lots of props to everyone in TWD team. I understand if you publish this and don't give a straight answer on some of the questions to avoid possible spoilers (PLEASE DON'T STOP!!!!!!!!!(EVER!!!!!!!!!!)).

Noah Jacobs
Fruitport, Michigan

Next month... fuck that! In TWO WEEKS we pick back up to discover some crazy ass shit. And I guess that AMC TV thing is back on air this week, so enjoy that, too. I guess.

-Sean Mackiewicz

Hey! Season 5 starts this week? It's honestly going to be great. Very cool stuff ahead... you'll see. You should all be very excited. And another issue in two weeks! Cool!

-Robert Kirkman

DON'T MISS THE NEXT ISSUE!



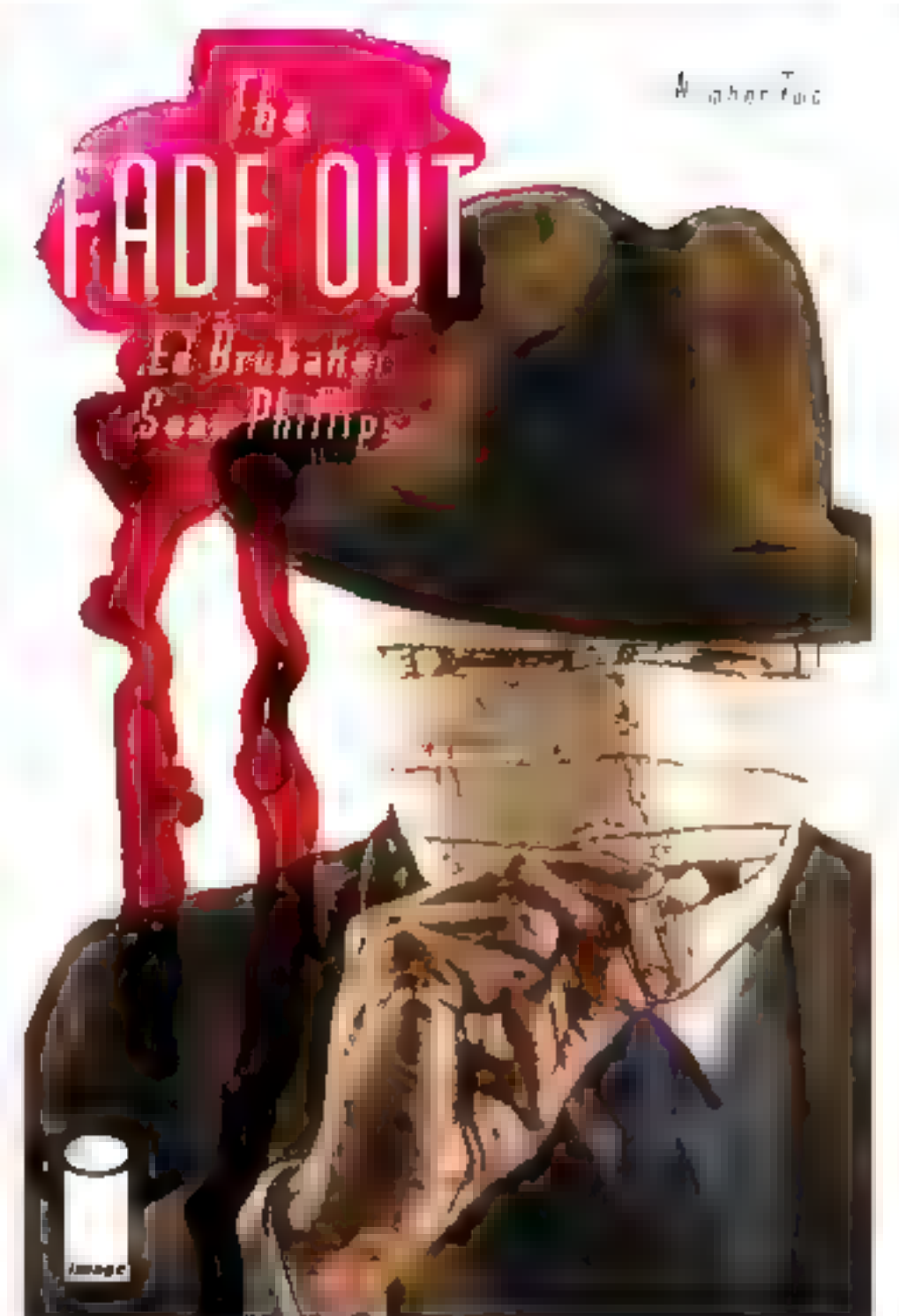
THE WALKING DEAD #133
ON SALE OCTOBER 2014



TECH JACKET #4
ON SALE NOW



NAILBITER #6
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THE FADE OUT #2
ON SALE NOW



OCTOBER
SOMETHING WICKED
THIS WAY COMES

w y t c h e s

witch (wich) *n.* [ME *wicche* < OE *wice*, fem. of *wico*, sorcerer, akin to N.Du *wicken*, to use ~~to separate~~ *to separate* (hence *se* 'aside' or 'religion as worship') both *wiehs*, holy. OB *wig*, id. 1 a person, esp. a woman, having supernatural power as by a compact with the devil or evil spirits, so *teress*, an ugly and ill-tempered old woman. 3 a follower of 'white magic' or of WICCA 4 Unfamiliar a bewitching or fascinating woman or girl 5 short for WATER WITCH *v.* *vt.* 1 to put a magic spell on; bewitch 2 (arch.) to charm; fascinate — *vi.* DOWSE — *with* 'like' *adj.* — *wits* *adj.* *der.* *witch* *i.* *est*

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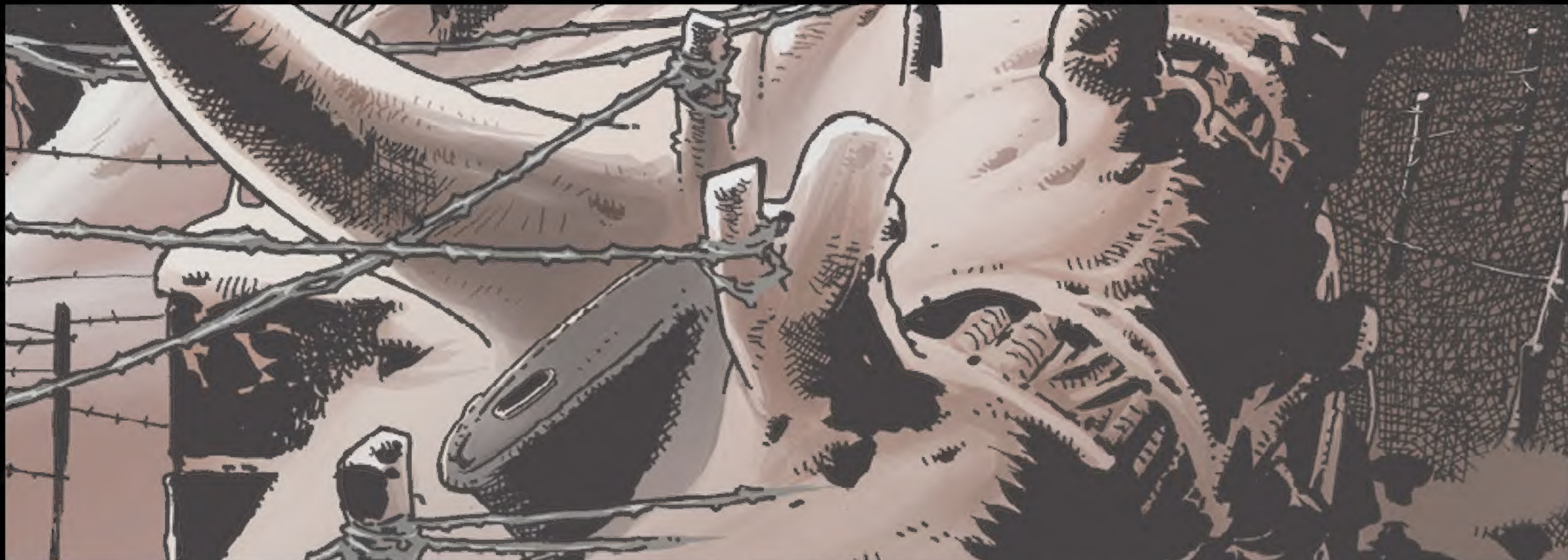
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BOOK ONE: FOCUS ON THE STRANGE

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IS FOR IMPERVIOUS



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From the creator of NAILBITER and GHOSTED

BIRTHRIGHT

Joshua Williamson

Andrei Bressan Adriano Lucas

TM



RATED M / MATURE

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October 2014



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When the adventure ends, the hero's journey begins!



None